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they make ideal pillow covers; but are hardly suitable for hangings, unless they serve as lining for some more stable stuff. Many firms in filling orders, where economy is no object, use cretome or other cotton stuffs for the curtain proper and one of these silks for the lining. The effect is, of course, charming and the hanging takes folds such as nothing less pliable would vield.

The Lyons Silk and Tapestry Co., whose factory is in Paterson, despite the French name, show, through their agents, Messrs. W. G. Hitchcock & Co., a wonderful assortment of light weight silks and silk and cotton stuffs, but do not handle the charming cretonnes at all.

Among the very newest things shown, which combine cotton with silk, are brocades with both plain and armure grounds, and among pure cotton goods, Campania cloth.

The former are lovely in the truest sense and are especially

designed for summer use. The colors are varied, including all that the dyer's art contains, and the designs are many. Which is better than another it would be difficult to say, but some one can be found to suit all rooms and at the price of one dollar and a half a yard, fifty inches wide. Campania cloth has the merit of being double-faced and of requiring no lining at all. It is especially well suited to portières for this very reason, as it looks equally well from either side.

Armure silk, sunshing and addacona, are three all silk stuffs and are fascinating in the extreme. They are designed for summer and are shown among warm weather goods. But rightly lined they might be used for hangings the whole year round, and they make couch and divan pillows that are perfect from June to December. They are all good, all charming, but the sunshing, which sells for three dollars a yard, fifty inches wide, seems to embody the very sunshine which its name suggests.

The present agents for Liberty & Co., Messrs. McHugh, have a variety of cotton stuffs that must win the most skeptical to appreciate that most suitable summer material. Plain Liberty chiniz and Liberty gossamer are both tempting and dainty. They sell respectively for thirty-five and fifty cents a yard, and are shown in all artistic tints.

Persian prints sell for fifty cents a yard and Persian curtains for seventy-five cents a pair. Both are delightful, as Oriental things are sure to be, and both make delightful draperies as well as perfect pillows. They can be found in several colors and designs, but the India curtains are blue and white and show that peculiar

rich, deep tone familiar in the Japanese crepe and India China.

Norris tapestry is double-faced and charming, as everything bearing that name is certain to be. It is fifty inches wide and one dollar and a half a yard, but as it requires no lining is not then more costly than some lower priced stuffs.

In fact, the range of choice is limited by time alone, for on every side something new and something charming springs into being. Money is no longer an essential determinant of selection. The lowest priced fabrics are as good in color and as charming in design as those of highest cost.

We have learned that cotton is capable of doing most excellent service and of being dyed in a multitude of colors which only a few years ago we fancied belonged to silk and wool. As a consequence, available materials have increased both in beauty and variety; and, what is of even greater moment to the woman of the average purse, beauty has ceased to be synonymous with cost.

## DECORATIVE NOTES.

THE writing desk is a very important part of the furniture of a woman's own room, says Hanper's Bazar. There are people who soramble along contentedly and somewhat clumsily with a small portfolio, part of a bureau drawer or an old atlas, in which to keep their correspondence, their paper and pens. Every one has been in houses where the request for writing material occasioned a search all over the house for the

family inkstand and the family supply of paper. Such houses, however, do not in these days exist in cities, where very much of the commerce of life must needs be carried on by means of notes. A society woman's day begins with the reading of and replying to her many correspondents' missives.

A well furnished writing desk. with paper of different sizes, envelopes to match, sealing wax, stamps, and all the dainty accessories of the writing table, is something no woman can afford to do without. When possible, the residence, street and number, perhaps the town, or the name of the house (if it possesses a pretty individual name), should be stamped at the top of the page. If a monogram is preferred, or the family coat of arms and motto, these may be placed at the top of the page, and the address may be engraved on the outside of the "Pine Hurst," "Oak envelope. "Pine Hurst," "Oak Ridge," "The Lowlands," etc., look very charming when engraved on the family note-paper. The family crest is more pretentious, but carries some weight.

The best paper for ordinary use is plain white, whether rough or smooth, thick or thin, depending on the taste of the writer, and depending also on the sort of pen she habitually uses. Few fountain pens glide easily over a rough surface and if these convenient implements are used, then the lady should select smooth paper to suit them. Nothing is more confusing than a pen which catches on the paper and refuses to make a mark. Ink should invariably be black. Pale writing is never in good taste; it is too trying to the eyesight of those who receive it, and seems to be

BED (STYLE LOUIS XV.), WITH DRAPERY IN PALE BLUE SILK, WITH APPLIQUÉ BORDER OF CHINTZ EFFECTS IN CREAM. LINED WITH CREAM SATISETTE. LOWER PART OF PAURIS AT TOP AND BOTTOM OF BED IN PALE BLUE, WITH CHINIZ EFFECTS ON CREAM GROUND AT TOP. BY GEORGES REMON.

lacking in dignity. Tinted papers, ragged edges, and eccentricities of every kind are not admissible.

THE Japanese silk handkerchiefs that are so trifling in size make dainty sachets. The regulation white cotton stuffing to hold the sachet powder is cut to the side and in the shape of a square. The handkerchief is folded so the two corners diagonally opposite meet, leaving two sides to be fastened together, and a corner at the top and two points at each of the two lower corners for bow decorations. Sew these sides with baby ribbon, threaded through a wide-eye darning-needle, and the big stitches that result and the bows of the same ribbon give the decorative effect.